

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney
District of Maine

100 Middle Street, Sixth Floor, East Tower Portland, ME 04101 (207) 780-3257 TTY (207) 780-3060 Fax (207) 780-3304

For Immediate Release December 4, 2006

<u>Contact</u>: James M. Moore Assistant United States Attorney

Tel: (207) 945-0373

Winterport Man Sentenced for Federal Firearms Crimes

Bangor, Maine: United States Attorney Paula D. Silsby announced that **Douglas W. Urquhart**, 27, of Winterport, was sentenced on November 30, 2006, to 21 months in prison, 36 months of supervised release, and in excess of \$1,000.00 in restitution and special assessments. Urquhart was charged with and pleaded guilty to Possession of Stolen Firearms and Making an Illegal Firearm.

According to court documents, in April 2005, Urquhart and two co-conspirators broke into a home and stole or attempted to steal 3 firearms. The owner of the residence came home and found Urquhart and his co-conspirators in his home where they had broken into a gun cabinet and were preparing to leave with the stolen guns. The homeowner kept the burglars under guard until law enforcement personnel arrived. Earlier the same month, the co-conspirators had stolen firearms from another house in the same neighborhood. The stolen firearms, including an illegal sawed-off shotgun, were discovered during a search to which Urquhart had consented.

This case was a part of Maine's Project Safe Neighborhoods. Prosecutions such as this are made possible through the hard work and collaboration of state and federal agencies. This initiative coordinates the efforts of federal and state agencies in order to increase successful prosecution of firearms cases and educate potential offenders on the serious consequences of illegal gun use and possession.

United States Attorney Silsby praised the investigation conducted by the Penobscot County Sheriff's Office, the Maine State Police, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the Eastern Maine Violent Crime Task Force.